

Remarks

Claim 10 is cancelled and claim 12 is amended. Claim 13 is added. Claims 1 to 9 and 11 to 13 are pending in this application of which claims 1, 5, 11 and 13 are in independent form. Claims 1 to 9 and 11 are allowed.

Claim 12 was objected to because there was no antecedent basis for "said reflection display". Accordingly, claim 12 is amended herein to provide the appropriate correction as required by the Examiner.

Claim 10 had been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ernstoff et al. Claim 10 is cancelled herein and claim 13 is substituted therefor. The following will show that claim 13 patentably distinguishes the invention over this reference.

Ernstoff et al does not disclose a surgical microscope but rather only a reflection display which is configured in accordance with FIGS. 7, 8 or 9.

In the embodiment of FIG. 7 of this reference, three lamps 202, 204 and 206 (red, blue, green) are provided which are switched on sequentially by means of a switch 216 in order to provide appropriate light for the reflection display.

In contrast, FIG. 8 of this reference includes only a lamp 304 which is disposed in a rotating filter drum 302 in order to sequentially illuminate the reflection display with red, green and blue light.

FIG. 9 of Ernstoff et al shows a reflection display which is

illuminated by white light emitted by lamp 406. The light, which is reflected by this display, is then passed through a rotating filter wheel to an observer. The filter wheel has red, green and blue filters.

From the above, it can be seen that in FIGS. 7 and 8 of Ernstoff et al, only a sequential illumination of a reflection display with different colors is provided; whereas, in FIG. 9 of this reference, the illumination of the reflection display is with white light but this light does not illuminate the reflection display sequentially.

From the above, it can be seen that Ernstoff et al provides no suggestion to our person of ordinary skill as to how the feature of applicants' claim 13 of:

"said image display including a
reflection display driven at a clock
frequency and illuminated sequentially with
only a single color as a function of time."

can be arrived at.

The applicants' surgical microscope set forth in claim 13 provides an ingenious measure wherein the brightness of a reflection display is increased (which reflection display is designed for several colors) and a color impression is generated for a viewer who looks through a surgical microscope having the corresponding display. This display clearly distinguishes from the color impression of the observed surgical area which is a distinct advantage afforded by the invention.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that claim 13 patentably distinguishes the invention over Ernstoff et al and should be allowable.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Ottesen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Walter" and last name "Ottesen" clearly distinguishable.

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made:

In the Disclosure:

On page 4, starting at line 28, please amend the paragraphs continuing to page 5, line 1, as follows:

-- FIG. 5 is a schematic showing a third embodiment of the surgical microscope of the invention; ~~and,~~

FIG. 6 is a schematic showing a fourth embodiment of the surgical microscope of the invention; and,

FIG. 7 is a schematic showing a fifth embodiment of the surgical microscope of the invention. --

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 12 as follows:

12. (Amended) The surgical microscope of claim 1, wherein said image display unit includes a reflection display; and, wherein
the brightness of said image display unit is increased by
5 providing a time-dependent sequential illumination of said
reflection display with only a single color.